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1897-01-15

Letter from Geo[rge] Hansen to John Muir, 1897 Jan 15.

George Hansen

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EXHIBIT OF THE
 "FLORA OF THE SEQUOIA GIGANTEA REGION."
 "THE ORCHID HYBRIDS."

GEO. HANSEN
 LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT
 SCENIC TRACT
 BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA

Jan. 15th. /97.

Prof. John Muir.

Dear Sir ,

Here it is where I landed , and after having restored order partially in the chaos of bundles & boxes , I have managed to set up my hundred and odd bundles of specimens , and have picked out your order as one of the first , sending it at same time as a lot for Mr. Sonne, at Truckee. Believe me , it was not well possible to get out any specimens before this. I felt sore at not being able to respond as readily to your generosity as I felt the necessity of doing . - Will the contents meet with your approval ? Do not fail to let me know. I much rather go without the pay than to live under the uncertainty of not knowing how my message was received.

I have received another order for a full set from Switzerland. If you deem my collection worthy of such , please, promote its sale if opportunity should offer. America has not responded freely to my petition and of European countries, almost all will be supplied by this year's end . Yet , I have about 25 full sets for sale , and do not know where else to secure subscribers.

I enclose a card showing that I have my vocation in the line of study I followed more or less closely for more than 16 years. It will be uphill work to gain a foothold, the more so as business methods are not liked by me any more than absolutely necessary. If you meet people ready to appreciate a man's ability of selecting shrubs and trees for permanent placement, who desire grounds laid out by a man judging needs and fairness of such objects, do not forget me .

With my change of residence comes the pleasant hope of coming in contact with people of my kind. The Sierra Club, surely, must be what I could appreciate , and I will now , that I have settled somewhat , make inquiry to attend , as guest , a meeting . May it be my good fortune to meet you there .

Late as such is , accept my hearty and sincere wishes for your well fare at the turn of the year. If I guess rightly , age must have intermingled your hair with gray , and endearing must be to you the view you take of years past, and years to come.

Thanking you again , sincerely yours

G. Hansen